



Postal Regulatory Commission
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February 3, 2020

Commissioner Robert G. Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Michael Kubayanda, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Mark Acton
Commissioner Ann Fisher
Commissioner Ashley Poling
Postal Regulator Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

Re: Docket RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the more than 600,000 clients we serve in Central and Western Oklahoma living with food insecurity, I urge you to reconsider the Commission's current proposal to raise current postal rates. The increases, which are estimated to reach seven percent per year, or 40 percent compounded over five years, will directly impact our ability to fulfill our mission of Fighting Hunger...Feeding Hope.

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma relies heavily on the use of direct mail and marketing to efficiently acquire funds to support providing food and resources to Oklahomans facing hunger. In fact, direct mail revenue accounts for more than twenty percent of our annual revenue. Should an increase in rates occur, this would likely prohibit us from using mail as a source of revenue generation and force us to move to alternative and more cost-effective means of fundraising.

This move would likely reduce funding for the Backpack Program, which provides food for 21,000 elementary school children over the weekend throughout the school year. Nola, a first grader at Townsend Elementary who participates in the Backpack Program stated,

When you don't get dinner at night, you're still hungry. When you're hungry, your belly starts to rumble. "I love the beef sticks in the backpack."

Due to the negative impacts this proposal would have on our work for our clients like Nola, The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma asks the Postal Regulatory Commission to reconsider the proposal to raise current postal rates.

Sincerely,

Deborah Bunting
Interim Chief Executive Officer

"Fighting Hunger...Feeding Hope"™

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